

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE**

**June 26, 2006**

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes affecting individuals from all socio economic backgrounds and businesses throughout. Last year alone, the Federal Trade Commission's Identity Theft Clearinghouse identified 255,565 reported cases of identity theft --- 45,175 of those victims reside in California. The types of reported fraud range from credit card and wireless phone accounts to fraudulent receipt of loans and government entitlement programs. In many instances, victims of identity theft spend countless hours filing police reports, responding to collection agencies and contesting inaccurate credit reports for several years before they can substantially restore their own good credit.

While identity theft is not a violent crime demanding immediate tangible response from law enforcement agencies, it is a serious crime which can cause undue financial harms, emotional distress and negatively impact someone's health. Therefore, given the significant number of identity theft occurrences, it is imperative that the County of Los Angeles take a leadership role in combating this problem.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs, with oversight by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), to work in concert with the District Attorney's Office to examine the feasibility of increasing resources toward the investigation and criminal prosecution of identity theft. Such examination should include but not be limited to the creation of an identity theft investigation unit within the Department of Consumer Affairs or the District Attorney's Office and the establishment of dedicated attorneys in the District Attorney's Office to prosecute identity theft offenders;

**-M-O-R-E-**

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE . BURKE**  
**JUNE 27, 2006**  
**PAGE TWO**

I FURTHER MOVE THAT this Board direct Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the CAO to jointly report back their findings and recommendations prior to book closing in September.

**#####**

s:/(amiller)ecervantes/2006/GerardoPinedo/motion/Identity Theft Prevention budget motion 062606